



THE BRITISH SOCIETY  
IN URUGUAY

# CONTACT

APRIL 2022

British Embassy

**Change of Consul**

Back in Time

**Fear of Falling**

Literature Matters

**Modernism's Annus**

**Mirabilis**

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Edition Number 139 - Year 13 - April 2022



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**I**t has been some time since I last wrote. Summer has come and gone. Hope you all had a wonderful summer and enjoyed it in family or friends.

So, we can say that the year has started and by this we also mean events, charity champagnes, activities, work and school. And we are working and several events and activities to give us the opportunity to see each other and share. We will soon be sending out notifications and invitations, so please keep a look out.

But first and furthermore important, our Annual General Meeting is this next 27 of April, and we are looking to seize the opportunity and make a big thing out of it. Besides the formal reading and voting on British Society issues, we look forward to seeing you all

Last year we set some interesting objectives for this 2022, and we are working to make them reality. One of our main objectives is to work on improving our social media communications as well as creating a new communication strategy, we are looking into new event formats as well as benefits for our members.

So, look forward to seeing as much of you as possible at our AGM, where we can share some drinks and words.

Kind regards

Colin Shearer  
President



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022**

**AGM**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

First call 19:30, Starts 20:00



**THE BRITISH SOCIETY  
IN URUGUAY**  
FOUNDED 1918

*Return to Presentality*

**The British Schools Pavilion**  
at Gral. Máximo Tajes 6411.



# Birthdays

in April

02 · Rodrigo Linn  
03 · Beryl E. Fitzherbert  
03 · Alvaro R. Rivas  
04 · Jack Sprigings  
04 · Eduardo Nogueira  
04 · María P. Coates  
04 · Chiara Sosa  
06 · Zelmira Velasco  
06 · María R. Reyes  
06 · Patricia M. Alvarez  
06 · Nicolás Castro  
07 · Martin H. MacAdam  
07 · Elisa S. Cooper

08 · Geoffrey W. Deakin  
08 · Marc Beare  
09 · Robin Cooper  
10 · Cecilia Ferrere  
10 · Joaquín Salhón  
10 · Facundo Del Campo  
12 · Sylvia Tosar  
14 · Gustavo A. Capurro  
16 · Ana C. Vernengo  
17 · Anna S. Beare  
18 · Lindsey J. Cordery  
19 · Joyce Gepp  
19 · Charlotte E. Brooke

20 · Marcos Vercelli  
20 · Jonathan C. Lamb  
21 · Beatriz C. Di Pace  
22 · John R. McConnell  
22 · Ophelia M. Aenlle  
25 · William Hambrook  
26 · Maria R. Otegui  
27 · Patricia A. Cobham  
28 · Dylan Fairless  
29 · Carlos Paolino  
29 · Malcolm S. Morton  
29 · Marion Wharton  
29 · Paola D. Cortés



# New Members

Alejandro 'Jano' Martin Macadam Arechavaleta  
Laura Cecilia Aguirre Launy  
Marcio Umpierrez Gualco  
María Cecilia Canosa Rojas  
Sharon Elaine Kitchen Semmartin

When life gives you melons,  
you might be dyslexic.



## THIS MONTH'S COVER



This month's cover features the Horniman Museum and Gardens. If there's one museum that should make visitors leave central London and venture to the wilds of the South, it's the Horniman.

It was founded by Frederick Horniman, a successful tea trader whose fortune and extensive travels helped him amass a huge collection of zoological specimens and anthropological oddments. The collection now includes a "merman," an Ancient Egyptian mummified crocodile and live jellyfish in the aquarium.

Don't miss: The star of the show is the bloated taxidermy walrus, which has been on display in the museum for over a century.

This unusual creature looks overstuffed and is missing the skin folds a live walrus normally has. It's thought to be a taxidermy error as most people in Victorian times wouldn't have known what a walrus was supposed to look like.

Enjoy!

Geoffrey W Deakin  
Editor

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

Remember you can get up to date with your membership fees easily from the comfort of your own home using any local debit card and most credit cards through the [RedTickets](#) platform.

And if you forgot to pay last year's fee (or any previous unpaid dues), you can simply pay two or more at the same RedTickets link or by visiting our [Website](#).

Else you can make a bank transfer (or direct deposit) to the **British Society** account at **Banque Heritage** Uruguay number 62582-03, or pay our Treasurer (in copy) directly. If done by bank transfer/deposit, please send our Treasurer a copy of the transfer/deposit slip.



2021



Once this is done, your membership will be updated.

## Farewell and Thank You

**W**hen I first joined our Society in 2014, my foremost task was to update and modernize our website so that it could be adequately viewed on laptops and mobile phones as well. Later on, our Executive Committee decided that we should have a current database of our more than 400 members and a method of being able to read our 140 plus Newsletter editions online.

After more than two years of dedicated work (thanks Richard), we accomplished our objective and now you can enjoy all our publications online and our Committee has clear information of our active members.

My stint as editor of our Newsletter began during Madeleine Pool's term as president. I designed the issue of May 2015, with a complete transformation of the layout format. Since at that time I also acted as vice-president, it was quite difficult for me to suitably perform all my assigned duties so when Richard Empson was elected as president, Joanna Hambrook took over and edited various issues (from August 2016 until June 2019). Jeanine Beare also contributed as supervising editor for a few issues.

As of July 2019, I have been solely in charge of creating and distributing our monthly Contact Newsletter which reaches out to an amazing number of readers in several countries.

Additionally, as some of you might remember, I also became "Geoff the Chef" for more than forty newsletter issues, in which corner I shared many of my homemade and borrowed (thanks Mom) recipes with our gourmet readers.

Nowadays, the newsletter that you read every month is the result of a team collaboration that includes material sent to us by our regular contributors. The present-day Contact Newsletter has a modern and pleasing design that reflects much inspiration after many hours of trial sketches, the ideas of former presidents and a very special contribution from Caroline Stanham.

With tons of care and dedication, I have created more than fifty newsletter issues that were shared among you. These editions I hope will be part of my legacy to our Society.

Last but not least, I have been in charge of our Mailing List which we use to get in touch with our Members and with more than 1,300 Newsletter Subscribers. It is an important tool to keep you informed of our events, publications, and sometimes, the passing of dear members.

When we started this List some four years ago, little did we imagine that it would grow so much; we had less than 700 persons on the Mailing List at the time. Nowadays, it constantly increases with new Members and Subscribers from Uruguay and other parts of the world; with at least 10 new Subscribers every month!

**But... for all these things must come to pass.**

This is my last Newsletter edition as editor.

It is with an unhappy heart that I must notify our dear readers and members that I am stepping down as editor and webmaster of our Society.

**I have fulfilled my cycle.**

Now is time for new blood and ideas to surge through the pages that you receive every month.

Also, I am taking a sabbatical from the Society until further notice.

Thank you for all your thoughts, kudos, contributions, comments, photos (some blurry), evaluations, recipes, jokes (some as bad as my Dad's), corrections and specially, my fellow board members' proof readings.

Take care and God bless you all,

Geoffrey W Deakin





## Women Leadership

To celebrate International Women's Day, the Embassy organised, for the second year, the activity "Leader for a Day", giving 9 ladies the opportunity of sharing a day with renowned women leaders, including Uruguay's Vice-president, Beatriz Argimón, Montevideo's mayor, Carolina Cosse, HMA Faye O'Connor and six other high-profile leaders from the areas of science, business, media and diplomacy. At an event at the Residence on 7 March with

all the women who took part in the activity, a mentoring project for first generation university students was also launched. Organised by young women who studied at British Universities and funded by Chevening, "Hace La Fuerza" aims to promote participation of women in leadership positions, giving them the opportunity to learn about the work of outstanding professionals and to connect with top-level leaders in different fields



## Change of Consul

We would like to introduce you to our new Deputy Head of Mission and HM Consul, Sandy Domaingue, and wish all the best to Rossa Commane who is leaving Uruguay soon and has been in this role since July 2017. Sandy has worked on a wide range of issues including War Crimes, North Africa,

Consular, Economics and Finance. She has served in five missions overseas in Nigeria, Croatia, Mauritius, Lebanon, and Denmark. Sandy is originally from London and studied English Literature and Politics at the Open University. She is accompanied by her husband and children



## Uruguayan Officer Honoured

In her first official ceremony, Deputy Head of Mission Sandy Domaigne had the pleasure of accompanying President Luis Lacalle Pou to hand over the International Sword of Honour to Alf. (Av.) Matias Alejandro Drascich Facelli, who

graduated from RAF College Cranwell as the best cadet in his course. This honour was presented during a ceremony to commemorate the 109th anniversary of the Uruguayan Military Airforce and Uruguayan Airforce Day.

## Jubilee Pudding

This year marks Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's 70th year on the throne, making her the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee. The Embassy is planning a series of activities to mark this amazing milestone, and has just launched "El Postre de la Reina", a Pudding competition, similar to the one in the UK. Aspiring chefs and bakers from age 8 onwards can enter the competition submitting their pudding creation.

A jury of celebrity chefs will try five short-listed puddings at an event at the Ambassador's residence. They will choose the pudding that will be served at an event to celebrate the Jubilee in June, and the winner will be our guest of honour. The selected pudding will also be sold by Tienda Inglesa and all profits will go towards *Fundación Corazoncitos* and *Fundappas* charities.

THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

¡EL POSTRE DE LA REINA PUEDE SER EL TUYO!

La Reina Isabel II celebra el Jubileo de Platino y queremos festejar estos 70 años de reinado con un postre único.

Participá del concurso El Postre de la Reina.

Enviá una receta creada por vos.

El ganador será el invitado de honor al evento del Jubileo de la Embajada Británica y el postre elegido se degustará en la celebración. Además, ¡será vendido en Tienda Inglesa!

Destinaremos lo recaudado a la Fundación Corazoncitos y a Fundappas.

FUNDAPPAS "ALEXA MACKERN" and Fundación Corazoncitos logos.

Creá un postre original, inscribite, ¡y participá!

Tenés tiempo hasta el 6 de abril para enviar tu receta. ¡No te pierdas la oportunidad de hacer El Postre de la Reina!

Embajada Británica Montevideo and TIENDA Inglesa logos.

Bases y condiciones en tiendainglesa.com.uy



## British presence at Patria Gaucha

Ambassador Faye O'Connor took part in Patria Gaucha celebrations, riding on the Royal Mail Carriage that was on display at the Residence on the last Heritage Day and that is exhibited all year round at *Museo y Parque Fernando García*. The carriage, which was used during the 1880s to

transport mail from London to Bath and Wells, made a great impression among all those who attended the festival in Tacuarembó, showcasing cultural links between the two countries.

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## St. Andrew's Family Picnic

Last Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> of March an excellent weather accompanied our Family Picnic at the Criolla Elias Regules.

It was attended by a record of family members and friends, from children to grandparents, who enjoyed the tasteful "cordero asado", salads, music, games and dances wrapped up by the traditional tea and cakes.





# Lunch Invitation

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 12:15 PM



Doctor

## Ignacio Bartesaghi

*The world after the war in Ukraine  
Challenges for Uruguay*

Parva Domus, Punta Carretas

More Information



[www.cub.com.uy](http://www.cub.com.uy)



This month we'd like to share with you an extract of a moving letter we received, from a daughter who traced and recovered the remains of her father, who died during WWII and was found buried in our Cemetery, in Sailors Corner.

The letter is too long to be published entirely, but if anyone is interested in the complete letter, please let us know.

*Dear British Cemetery,*

*My Mother, Brother, and I would like to thank you again for all that you did to help us bring her Father and the Grandfather we never met home.*

*He will be buried this coming week in Tequesta, Florida and my Mother will have realized a dream she has had for these 70+ years.*

*We wanted to make sure we thanked you in his Obituary and send this note so you know how important your work can be.*

*Thanks again,*

*Alan*

### **Obituary - Francisco Mosquera**

Report of an American Sailor's death abroad, April 25, 1944. World War II.

This is all that my father's death certificate said. It took me, his daughter, 77 years to find him and bring him home to the U.S.A..

My father's name was Francisco Mosquera. He was an American Merchant Seaman leading up to and during World War II. He served aboard several United States Merchant Ships in the Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, and Pacific Ocean during World War II.

I was just a child at the time of his death and had been placed in an orphanage called Saint Cabrini Home, in West Park, New York. My mother was gone, and my father had been ordered to sea, so with no one else to take care of me, he placed me in Saint Cabrini.

I remember how difficult it was for us to say goodbye and now, based on seeing the comments the Medical Staff made on his Death Certificate, that he was worried and thinking of me in his final moments. I now know that he assigned his sister to be my guardian in case he did not come back and she did her duty and eventually came to retrieve me from Saint Cabrini.

I finally have closure based on what the Medical Staff wrote that my Father loved me to the very end.

Now, how did I find him? A few years ago, my family did a chance Internet search, quite literally at the same time, recently de-classified records from the Merchant Marine from World War II were made publicly searchable. The result, after 77 years of not knowing I was finally able to discover how and where my Father died. I also was able to discover where his remains were located, far away in Montevideo, Uruguay.

He had died alone in a hospital in Montevideo, after being put ashore so that he could get better care than his ship could provide, but he succumbed to his illness, and was buried in the British Cemetery in Montevideo. They took excellent care of my Father, a stranger to them, but a Seaman who died alone in a country far from his home and far from the daughter that he loved.

I am also proud that my Father gave his life in the service of his country, as the ship he was serving as a Merchant Seaman aboard, that put him ashore to get better care than they could provide, was bringing home wounded Sailors, Soldiers, and Marines from the battles that were raging in the Pacific at the time.

The ship my Father was serving on when he died was one of many U.S. Merchant ships that the US. Navy took control of during World War II. The name of his ship was U.S.S. Florence Nightingale (AP70) which was operating as a hospital ship at the time. Many Merchant Seamen like my Father, as members of the U.S. Merchant Marine, sailed under the control of the U.S. Navy during World War II on all manner and types of ships delivering troops, planes, tanks, ammunition, food, gas, medical services, etc. to and from every battle zone where America was at war.

It is a miracle that I found my father. Many good people have helped me to find him and bring him home to the USA.

With love,

Jennifer Amrod





## WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

**W**omen's Day was celebrated on Saturday 19th. March at the British Cemetery. Architect Montemuiño and Professor Carolina Lazo started the tour "They are Here" at 15:30 telling the stories of women who left their mark in Uruguay and in the world. We learnt about Stella Lavinia Spencer who was a poet and artist, and she was a pioneer in the social and political emancipation of women.

Cecilia E. Guelfi was an Argentinian young teacher who worked in municipal schools then in 1879 she created Crandon Institute. She accompanied José Pedro Varela in the Educational Reform in a very active way.

Margaret Jamieson English woman second wife of Timoteo Aparicio and the anecdote about being a spy for a political party.

Armonia Somers was a poet and writer, she wrote some very important papers on education; to such an extent that she was invited by the UNESCO to travel to Paris, Madrid, London and Geneva.

At 17:00 there was a talk at the Chapel about "Cordon Bleu", Elena Hughes de Moor-Davie pioneer in cooking on TV. The talk was delivered by Doctor in Anthropology Gustavo Laborde the Tour ended in a Musical Performance of Violin played by Isabel Reggiardo and Margo Ragón at the Bandoneon.





“The Power of the Dog” almost won an Oscar in Hollywood. Did you know the key line comes from the Psalmist (David) petitioning God for help? Did you know that this very Psalm was quoted by Jesus himself as one of his final “words” during his crucifixion?

The first disciples/ followers of Jesus and Early Church leaders reflected deeply on his teaching and his final words. They searched the Scriptures knowing that each quote from a text was possibly evoking the whole text. Scot McKnight, a respected New Testament scholar, remarks that “the Psalms probably lie behind Jesus’s words in Mark 9:12”. (*In Mark 9 some of the disciples are asking Jesus about the meaning of certain prophecies about Elijah or a coming Messiah who would deliver God’s people with great triumph. Jesus asks them in turn, why the ancient Scriptures foretell that “the Son of Man will suffer and be rejected...”*).

Jesus is challenging their understanding of what God’s promises mean at the same time he is validating the Hebrew Scriptures as a place to discern wisdom and truth. Certainly, just prior to his death, Jesus quoted the opening line of Psalm 22, a well known prayer for deliverance and vindication which includes two general themes, one

of suffering and one of resurrection (*McKnight, Scott in “Jesus and His Death: Historiography, the Historical Jesus, and Atonement Theory”, p 213*). By quoting it, he validated certain interpretations and made the prayer of David into his own.

When we read the Psalms or recite the Lord’s Prayer, we can make those prayers our own. In the movie, “The Power of the Dog”, the turn of the Psalmist’s phrase is astute, clever, mysterious, and moving. Deliverance for each of us can take many different forms depending on our needs and awareness of them.

While I leave you to decide if the Psalm’s citation was appropriate, I will encourage you to reflect and remember. God’s work in this world includes suffering and resurrection, life and death, clarity, and mystery. All of these elements are present in our circumstances, emotions, intellect, bodies, and spirit.

Where do you find your greatest need for deliverance?

**Arocena 1907**

**Esq. Lieja, Carrasco**

**Tel 2601 0300**

[contact@christchurchmvd.org](mailto:contact@christchurchmvd.org)

[www.christchurchmvd.org](http://www.christchurchmvd.org)

# The Big R's in LENT



## Donate blood to keep the world beating

Blood donation is an act of great solidarity. To this day there is nothing else that can replace the components that are found in blood which patients may require at critical times.

Blood banks are a constant flow of entry and exit of those blood components because they are not only required before an operation or an accident, but for the daily treatment of people with some deficiencies due to different pathologies.

At the British Hospital we have a laboratory that processes blood units and extracts the different components with which to provide patients in more effective and personalized treatments.

**At present, we have set up an agenda to coordinate extractions which comply with the care protocols.**

**You can donate at any given time or through the Donor Club.**

Hospital members can enrol in the Club and, with a single annual donation, benefit 3 members of their family should a need arise for any of them in the future.

**Join us!**  
**T. 2487 1020, int. 4235**



**M**onday 7th March marked the beginning of a new school year at The Anglo School in our two venues, Carrasco and Centro. In both we welcomed our Kinder, Primary and Secondary students and families, from the little ones in Kinder 2 to the oldest in Form 4 Secondary.

Due to the challenging past two years, we were looking forward to 2022, with the hope of it bringing us one step closer to the old normal: sharing activities all together, face to face lessons and resuming all curricular and extra-curricular activities. Even though we still have some restrictions thanks to Covid 19, the start of this new year gave us the opportunity to go back to many of the everyday activities we loved doing before the pandemic started, and that was evidenced in the very first days of the school year.

In the case of Kindergarten, we could see the younger members of our community joining our school with mixed feelings of excitement for being in a place where they will make lots of friends and enjoy discovering the world around them, and a certain level of anxiety because mum and dad were not staying with them. This quickly turned into joy and self-confidence as the adaptation period progressed and they started feeling safe and comfortable at school.

Primary students filled the playground and classrooms with their energy and laughter, bringing with them all their wishes and expectations and hoping to fulfil them all this year.

Our secondary school learners, more experienced and mature, came with the conviction that they have already come a long way but still have much to learn.



We are deeply committed to sharing this learning journey with all our students and their families, and to accompanying them on their way to becoming citizens of the world, displaying our school values: respect, responsibility, empathy and self esteem.

It's common knowledge that practising team sports has a number of benefits: it's good for our health, releases stress, develops bonds and team spirit, fosters collaboration and a sense of community.

These are some of the reasons why team sports play such an important role in our school, in which we provide opportunities not only for current and former students to practise different sports, but also for their families.

We started our project of sports for parents back in 2013, with the main objectives of expanding the sports experience beyond our students and school hours, developing bonds among families and fostering a sense of belonging to The Anglo School.

The project was a huge success, as in the last few years the number of members joining the different teams has been increasing steadily, to the extent that we now have over 150 members in all our teams.

We currently have four 'Papi' football teams (Anglo Red, Anglo Black, Anglo Azul and Anglo Centro). These teams participate in the tournaments organised by ADIC, in the +40 and +45 categories.



'Mami' teams are also very popular, participating in three sports: football, hockey and handball. The Mami hockey team participates in Lid tournaments, while the Mami handball teams plays in the ADIC league.

Our former students also have a place in our sports programme, participating in Handball and being trained by Bruno Puime, who is also a former student of ours.

All our teams hold enthusiastic weekly evening practices both on our sports field and our school gym.



# ONLINE COURSES FOR TEACHERS OR ADVANCED LEVEL STUDENTS

**NEW START:  
APRIL 2022**



**COURSES FOR TEACHERS OR ADVANCED LEVEL STUDENTS  
ON A WIDE VARIETY OF TOPICS:**

- ✓ LANGUAGE IMPROVEMENT FOR TEACHERS
  - ✓ CONTEMPORARY BRITISH CULTURE
  - ✓ TEACHING ADVANCED LEVELS
- ✓ LANGUAGE THROUGH LITERATURE COURSE
  - ✓ VERY YOUNG LEARNERS
  - ✓ ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION COURSE
- ✓ LEARNING DIFFERENCES IN THE ENGLISH CLASSROOM
  - ✓ TKT: CLIL
  - ✓ TKT: YL
  - ✓ TKT CORE MODULES
- ✓ ANGLO CERTIFICATE IN TEFL (f2f and online)



## Telemedicine 3.0

**T**ele' is an ancient Greek prefix commonly used in modern languages. It's original meaning is 'far' and it's used to denote physical distance between persons or objects. Television means we can 'see' objects via images sent from afar. Telepathy means we can 'feel' what others are experiencing when separated.

Telemedicine is the term used to describe the spatial disruption of the one-on-one and face-to-face relationship between those who provide a healthcare service and those on the receiving end. "Take two aspirin and see me in the morning" – a typical caricature of a late evening call by a patient to the doctor, would be considered telemedicine. We could call this pre-internet Telemedicine 1.0: communication by landline phones, radio, or telegraph. This happened in the 19th and 20th centuries, with reports of wounded soldiers on the battlefield sent to the medical services at the operation's headquarters – imagine it may be happening even now during the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

At the end of the 20th and beginning of the 21st century, telemedicine centres were established in major hospitals, universities, which used the internet, but were dependent on expensive equipment at both ends. A good example are the 'Centros de Teleconferencia' – one of them is located in the Fundación Peluffo-Giguens, on the southwest corner of the block on Boulevard Artigas where the Hospital Pereira Rossell is located. I've personally attended grand rounds, conferences, and consultations with foreign experts there. This would still be Telemedicine 1.0 – with the internet component.

Telemedicine 2.0 is based on cheap, handheld devices (the best example is smartphones) that can communicate with the technology of both the pre- and post-internet Telemedicine 1.0 backbones, especially between themselves. The potential for breakthrough incremental use of Telemedicine 2.0 was hindered and bogged by legal,

ethical, practical, and billing concerns, just to name a few. Because of this, many enthusiasts expected a gradual decade-long transition from the business-as-usual provision and use of healthcare to a more tech-based interaction, as had already happened in retail business, banking, travel, and other areas of human interaction.

The COVID-19 pandemic had the immediate effect of transforming what would take the greater part of one decade to the lesser part of ten days. Interacting personally was limited overnight to virtually zero and the provision of healthcare services had to rely on the existing (and to be developed) technology, based on the internet and smartphones. The term telemedicine was used interchangeably with 'virtual medicine' and everyone in the healthcare scenario scrambled to put the pieces of the new puzzle together. Smartphone apps to manage one's own healthcare became the norm.

The onset of the pandemic was sudden, potentially severe, and fatal for many. Fortunately, the Telemedicine 2.0 infrastructure was in place in many countries and regions, and this facilitated a steep learning curve of adapting and adopting new ways to provide and access healthcare. Virtual interactions are already taken for granted. Even with the gradual return of face-to-face services in education, public services, recreation and healthcare, there are still no certainties as to how the pandemic will end or morph into an endemic stage.

In a recent Zoom conference, I gave on the impact of technology on the doctor-patient relationship, I dubbed the present state Telemedicine 3.0. When one of the participants asked me: "Why 3.0 if the technology is the same as in 2.0?" my answer was that we can now strip the term of its 'Tele' prefix and simply call it simply 'Medicine' again, which is the state where we'll be in for a long time, maybe forever.

# Cambridge Assessment International Education & Dickens Institute: 30 years of a warm and happy academic relationship

30 years ago, sometime in 1997, I was at the Institute when someone advised me that Maria Antonia, Head of English at one of the best bilingual schools in Montevideo, would like to speak to me. I had a long relationship with her and her school so it was really a pleasure to see her. After the exchange of the usual niceties, came a very unusual petition. As I was going to be in the UK, would I go to Cambridge International and ask for Dickens to become a centre for the IGCSE examinations?



Before I could give her an answer, she gave me the card of a Cambridge Representative who had given a presentation of the exams in Uruguay. With that she left.

I arrived home in a state of shock and broke the news to my husband. I should have known better. I am sure he never imagined the possible outcome of the petition. He was so happy at the idea of our taking a train to Cambridge and spending the day there! A few days later I received an appointment from Cambridge. So fate was taking a hand! Too late to turn back...

Sitting on that train to Cambridge, while my husband enjoyed the view, I was a nervous wreck. Leaving my husband sitting on a bench I went in and announced myself. Quite a big man with a not too friendly face introduced himself as Tom Eason and wished to know what I wanted. I told him the whole situation. He said he would introduce me to some professors who were in charge of some of the subjects and exams, and then we would talk.



Talking to those professors absolutely opened my mind to what education should be like. In my time, and unfortunately in some places it still goes on, there was a lot of repetition, memorization and so on. These Cambridge professors wanted students to solve problems they came up with in life, find answers which would not be all alike but perfectly feasible. To give you an example, the History Professor, the most

endearing of them all, asked what is the use of remembering the date of the Second World War if we don't know what caused it? What circumstances could have prevented it? In other words history must be taught to make us think not repeat.

By the time I saw Tom again I was bubbling over with enthusiasm. Tom arranged a meeting for us in Buenos Aires and we parted friends.

To cut a long story short two months later, in 1997 in Buenos Aires, Dickens became an IGCSE centre and Maria Antonia was able to enter 6 candidates to 2 subjects each in November of that year!

You may be happy to know that Dickens is now working with 33 Schools sitting for Cambridge International Exams. Our grateful thanks to all concerned.



*Tom Easton & Monica Harvey, 2005*

## HAPPY 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CAMBRIDGE ASSESSMENT INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION & DICKENS INSTITUTE

*Monica Harvey*  
Founder



*Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards,  
1st Edition, 2008*



*Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards, 2021, at the British Ambassador's Residence*

# MID SUMMER DREAM

GOLDEN EDITION



AN INSPIRING  
CONFERENCE FOR THE  
ELT COMMUNITY

JULY 30th  
SAVE THE DATE



EVENTS ARE BACK!



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Cambridge

English Qualifications

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Cambridge Assessment English Exams sat at Dickens.

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and we're with you every step of the way.

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will distinguish the best students at a ceremony.

May 2022





## Fear of Falling

When I was in my teens, I went to a party at the Edificio Panamericano, a new residential building that overlooks the Buceo Yacht Club in Montevideo. We were in a lovely apartment on the eighth floor. I was standing by the window, looking at the masts bobbing up and down in the marina across the road. I lowered my eyes and saw a narrow ledge running across the front of the building, all the way to the corner about ten feet to my left. I pictured myself out there, inching my way along the ledge and then around the corner to a window on the side wall, where I would re-enter the room to the admiring applause of my peers.

That night, in a dream, I climbed out onto the ledge. A couple of boys asked what I was doing, but I ignored them. Facing right, with my chest and belly pressed against the glass, arms outstretched and hands gripping whatever they could find, I began to edge my way along, the applause still ringing in my ears. The ledge was less than a foot wide but felt solid. As I reached the corner of the building, I curled my fingers around the masonry and held on tight. I leaned forward to peer around the corner and realized I hadn't counted on the wind. A stiff blast hit my face, ruffling my hair and making me feel I was being pushed back, off the ledge. I suddenly thought about the drop below me, eight floors to the ground. My mouth dried up and my heart started pounding in my chest. Very carefully, I swivelled my head around, slowly moved back along the ledge, and climbed in through the window I had just exited. My insides had turned to ice, and I was shaking uncontrollably. One of the boys said I was as white as a sheet. I managed a weak smile and slunk away.

There was no applause.

I had felt that kind of fear before. The kind that strips away all your supports, all your distractions, and makes you concentrate all your attention on the mess you're in. You are utterly alone and know that if you don't save yourself, nobody will. We're always alone when we're face to face with our mortality.

As a kid, I loved to jump on and off buses while they were moving. Old city buses, with an open platform at the back and a couple of steps for passengers to climb up and down. Newspaper boys, *canillitas*, did it all the time, carrying a huge bundle of newspapers under one arm. In awe of them, I started making timid jumps and gradually built up my skill and confidence and became more and more daring. One day I waited longer than I ever had before; the bus was already moving quite fast when I leaped off the bottom step. I knew from experience to literally hit the ground running, but my momentum was greater than I expected and was propelling me forward at a terrifying speed. I ran faster than I'd ever run before, knowing that if I didn't keep up, I was dead.

A few years later I was visiting my friend, Alicia, in San José, Costa Rica. We had some delicious daiquiris at a thatched roof, open-air bar and then she drove us to the top of the Irazú volcano, which looked like the surface of the moon. This was the mid-1960s and there was very little there to prevent idiots from walking right down to the rim. I did just that and was soon standing where, if I leaned out just a little, I could see the furnace raging and roaring far below: red and yellow flames shooting up out of a molten soup. Some pebbles suddenly shifted under my feet and rolled over the edge. My heart leaped into my throat, and I stumbled back and hurried up the slope to safety, wondering when I was going to learn.

## Renowned Authorities in Blue Economy Arrive In Uruguay in April

Included in the meetings that are taking place worldwide and after the recent “Pact for Climate” held in Glasgow last year, a group of specialists and authorities from the United Kingdom will be reunited in Punta del Este during the second week of April. This meeting is part of the Project of Preservation and promotion of the Blue Economy linked to the biological reef “Bajo los Banquitos” that includes the site of the famous English warship HMS AGAMEMNON, wrecked in Maldonado’s Bay in 1809.

Among the specialists, it is remarkable the presence of the Honourable Mary Montagu-Scott who holds the position of High Sheriff of the County of Hampshire UK, and Advisor of the Ministry of Defence (MOD-UK); Prof. Robert York Chairman of the UK Joint Nautical Archaeology Policy Committee, Professor Jon Adams of the Centre for Maritime Archaeology, University of Southampton, Professors David Parham of Bournemouth University and Garry Member Director of the Maritime Archaeological Trust, UK, among others.

During the event, held by the NGO Oceanids and the British Embassy in Montevideo, specialists will work to implement a model of inter-institutional cooperation in the marine reef. The main objective is to assess the sustainability of a stable

bi-national technical cooperation programme as well as to strengthen the areas of Blue Economy and Climate Change in the country. **A country committed to its aquatic heritage**

During the meeting scheduled for next month in Punta del Este, a first underwater inspection of the biological, geomorphological, and anthropic components will be carried out in order to analyse the state of preservation and balance, and the next stages of work will be defined based on the results.

### Let’s talk about blue economy

Blue Economy is considered around the world to define the sustainable use and conservation of oceans, seas, lakes, rivers, and other water resources.

This concept was developed as a necessity in order to face the climate change and as an international procedural route to repair and to seek ways to halt the degradation of marine ecosystems and the cultural communities that live in relation to them.

Blue Economy proposes something as simple to understand and as complex to apply as the transformation of the way we think about business and economic activities, copying nature and its way. A transformation of thinking the environment, agriculture, waste, etc. in the search for sustainable development of the planet.

In this sense, it is our wish that the arrival of such acknowledged authorities and specialists constitutes an opportunity for the Uruguayan authorities to consider the future installation of a Scientific Maritime Interpretation Centre in the Captancy of Punta del Este, which will allow the dissemination of cultural and environmental contents aimed to the people from the department as well as national and international tourists.



# NAVIGATING THE LEGEND

## HMS Agamemnon Exhibition



### Museo Ralli, Punta del Este

April, 10th, 16th, 17th, 23rd, 24th and 30th.  
14 to 18hrs. Annex building.

**Free Admission**

AN **OCEANIDS**



Embajada Británica  
Montevideo

PRODUCTION

## News from Conchillas, Colonia

For the second year running, Queen Elizabeth II's official birthday has been marked by an event dubbed a mini Trooping the Colour at Windsor Castle just outside London due to the pandemic.

In 2021 HMS Ambassador in Uruguay Faye O'Connor celebrated it by giving away 95 Ibirapitá trees as a symbol of the historic friendship that unites our countries and as a message of hope for the future.



**In Conchillas the Ibirapitá tree was planted next to Casa Evans this year.**





## My Kiwi Experience

A few years ago, I was invited to participate in an Australasian Congress that took place at the University of Auckland and having heard so much of what a nice country New Zealand was, I was eager to find out by myself. I was impressed at the airport by the honesty of the money changers that offered me very good rates, both upon arrival and on leaving, something not too common at airports, being our own Carrasco one a scandalous example.

During the Congress a student introduced us to local customs by wearing a special costume at the inauguration ceremony and reading a Maori text that, although I didn't have a clue of what it meant, it seemed to be some sort of significant statement and that was considered the proper way to start proceedings. The weather was quite cool, even being the end of summer, which I found to be very pleasant since I dislike the heat after a terrible experience I had in London in summer in which travelling in the very crowded Tube during rush hour made me catch a cold that lasted two weeks and made me make a rather expensive visit to Harley Street. I found it very difficult to walk around in Auckland since the streets were so hard to climb, being much worse than San Francisco, it was all a very tiring experience. But the people were awfully nice and whenever I found it too hard to get back to the hotel, there was always the friendly taxi to get me out of the depths of such valleys. I found it particularly interesting how local people mispronounce certain words like "beed" for "bed" and such.

The hotel was suggested by the organizer and was a quite fancy and rather expensive one, but very close to the venue. An odd event took place while I was having dinner at the hotel restaurant. I noticed that one of the walls was covered with empty wine bottles with different brand

names. One of them had the nicely written name "Bastard" in large characters and it was repeated regularly on the wall... I had to look several times to make sure it was no mistake. When I told the receptionist about it, he didn't seem surprised, and I saw later on that there had been no change.

Every evening, after dinner, I went outside to enjoy one of my very thick long cigars and I noticed that a few Maori people were busy doing some work in the hotel. One of them as he passed by, said "racist!". Although surprised, I quickly replied, "Oh, no, I like Maori people". It was then I realized that Maoris in New Zealand enjoy all kinds of rights but there was still a feeling of discrimination, especially from the prosperous businessmen that I appeared to be. Soon after, a couple of Maori ladies, noticeable by their tattoos around their mouths, approached me and started a conversation. I quickly said I was there just for a lecture at the university, clarifying the racist issue and I won them over by saying that I had watched and enjoyed very much a local film, "The dark horse", in which a Maori chess player teaches some Maori youngsters how to play and they end up winning a local tournament, thus saving one of them from a shady future in crime that his own father was planning by having him join some sort of gang.

I was shocked to find out later that Australia had deported thousands of Maoris due to their criminal records, which told me that things were not so bright there as most people would think. Every place one goes there is a world of knowledge to be had by being observant and perceiving behaviours that reveal more than what you read in the brochures or from what you hear from the casual tourist.

## Montevideo-On-Weddell

by Alvaro Cuenca  
acuenca66@gmail.com

Ernest Shackleton is hot news now as his ship, the *Endurance*, has been found under 3,000 metres of the Antarctic Sea. By the way, one of the leaders of the search is Mensun Bound born in the Falkland Islands in 1953 and former pupil of our British Schools. Shackleton's expedition has other connections to Uruguay. A Uruguayan Navy salvage mission failed twice in the attempt to rescue Shackleton's crew and returned only when a written affidavit of the British explorer exonerated them from further attempts. Also, when Shackleton died on route to the South in 1922, his body was embalmed in Montevideo and a tribute was organised where the Anglo-Uruguayan Ex-servicemen's Association presented a guard of honour. But this short article is not about Shackleton, a typical Victorian tragic hero as Gordon of Khartoum and Scott of the Antarctic, famous for what they did not accomplish, and for their stubbornness in pursuing their objectives to the very end. It is about a lesser-known member of the *Endurance* crew, who endured the same sacrifices but remained in anonymity during his lifetime.

On the second decade of the XX Century the coal driven engine has taken over from the sail and the wind as rulers of the sea. Only catch is that the coal must take space from the cargo which is the reason of existence of the maritime commerce. An obvious solution to this basic problem is having coal reserves in ports along the highways of the sea, one of them is Montevideo at the entrance of the River Plate basin. When speaking of coal there is only one option. The best coal in the world for naval use is the Welsh coal, and as an essential commodity it has its providers and distributors in Montevideo. One of them is a branch of the Welsh port service's company Mann, George Depot. Regular freights of good Welsh coal are ordered by the firm, and such is the case when the frigate *SS Golden Gate* arrives to the port of Montevideo on September 18 of 1914. The Great War has

just started so coal is eagerly awaited as the hostilities may hinder coal availability.

The *SS Golden Gate* is anchored off the ports breakwater waiting to be unloaded when a sudden storm struck Montevideo. The anchor slips and the ship grapples towards the rocks at the west of the port entrance. Next day three ships will attempt to tow the *SS Golden Gate* but eventually it will be considered a total loss. One of the salvage ships, probably the *Plata* is on route to Buenos Aires and takes some of the ill-fated ships' crew. Thus, is how William Bakewell and Perce Blackborow end up in Buenos Aires and not on Montevideo's cabarets.

Nobody in Buenos Aires takes notice of these two British newcomers as another British celebrity is on the port, Ernest Shackleton who is loading stores for his well-publicised Weddell Sea-Ross Sea expedition. Shackleton also realises that he may be undermanned, so he asks for volunteers through the local press. Both Bakewell and Blackborow answer and apply but only Bakewell is accepted. Blackborow, born in 1896 in Newport, Wales is considered by Shackleton too young and inexperienced for the ordeal awaiting them. Blackborow lacks experience but is stubborn and committed and with Bakewell's help hides in the *Endurance's* hold and joins the expedition as stowaway.

Blackborow will be discovered when no turning is possible and legend goes that Shackleton, in a total rage, threatens Blackborow by telling him that stowaways are the first to be eaten if they get stranded in the ice. Apparently Shackleton ends the conversation telling Blackborow to get acquainted with the expedition's cook. Luckily he only becomes the cook's assistant and not ingredient.

Shackleton's Imperial Transantarctic Expedition was a total failure and nearly ends in tragedy. Perce Blackborow endured the whole ordeal and luckily only lost the toes of the left foot due to frost bite and amputation. Fate prevented him to pass and an uneventful evening in Montevideo, but in the end made him a celebrity, as the youngest crewmember of the *Endurance's* famous trip.





## 1922 - Modernism's Annus Mirabilis

by Lindsey Cordery  
lcordery@gmail.com

**1922 was the year of T. S. Eliot's "The Waste Land", James Joyce's "Ulysses", Katherine Mansfield's "The Garden Party" and Virginia Woolf's "Jacob's Room", but also of other modernist and avant-garde art and literature.**

In February 1922 - his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday- Joyce's *Ulysses* was published in Paris, signalling the arrival of a new age, as Ezra Pound, the American modernist announced. A century on, 1922 still looks like the year literature changed, when modernism came into its own. T. S. Eliot's poem, "*The Waste Land*", was first published in October -so that the great novel of modernism was followed by its greatest single poem. These would be enough to mark 1922 as a watershed. But also in 1922, Virginia Woolf published *Jacob's Room*. These writers were all highly conscious of being part of a concerted effort to break with established forms. The alliances and rivalries between individual writers gave literary modernism a singular self-consciousness. This web of influences and friendships, and sometimes collaborations, was necessary to their literary innovations. Eliot had read early, serialised sections of *Ulysses* and declared Joyce "the best living prose writer". Eliot himself had read "*The Waste Land*" to Leonard and Virginia Woolf, who published it in their press, the Hogarth Press in December 1922.

Virginia Woolf was fascinated and perplexed with *Ulysses*: she writes in her diary that she found it "An illiterate, under bred book". But then she changed her mind: she later thought it was "very much more impressive than I judged". She would have to read it again. But for Eliot, *Ulysses* is the "book to which we are all indebted and from which none of us can escape." The novel's enigmas and puzzles have certainly "kept the professors busy", as Joyce jokingly hoped they would.

Woolf's novel, *Jacob's Room*, was highly experimental, enacting the elusiveness of its central character, a young man who is never quite present to us. All the other characters who come and go are in some way connected to him and seen in glimpses. There is no reliable narrator, no plot, and an unstable timeline, as the novel gives the reader one short episode after another. Sometimes these are rendered entirely in visual terms: we see what characters do but

must infer their feelings and motives. Jacob (his surname is Flanders) is destined to be killed in the First World War -which is never openly mentioned- but the novel requires the reader to decide the reason for his room's emptiness at its end. Very poetic and beautifully written, it clearly turns its back on Victorian narrative realism, such as Arnold Bennett and H.G. Wells wrote.

In Brazil, 1922 was a landmark year. A century of independence from Portugal, it was the year that put Brazilian art on the international map. An idea grew up from the artists' studios of São Paulo: to dedicate a week to modern art, to run alongside the government-organised centenary celebrations.

Today the *Semana de Arte Moderna* of 1922 is recognised as a pivotal moment in the development of modern art. At the time, however, it was greeted with expressions of anger, horror, fear, or derision – as were the English modernist writers. Although several of the country's artists continued to visit Europe, most notably Paris, on their return to Brazil they no longer produced mere imitations of what they had seen in Europe, as their predecessors in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries had done. Clearly, one of the most pronounced features of the works displayed was a desire to rid Brazil of imported art, literature, ideas, and ideology. Building from the *Semana de Arte Moderna*, artists and writers such as Oswald de Andrade and Guido Cavalcanti went on to champion Brazilian modernism in the pages of the journal *Klaxon* considered the first publication of the Brazilian avant-garde.

In Perú, and Argentina, for example, 1922 represented an equally significant year: César Vallejo published his ground-breaking verse collection *Trilce*, and Oliverio Girondo his "*Veinte poemas para ser leídos en un tranvía*". A little later, in 1927 in Uruguay Alfredo Mario Ferreiro published "*El hombre que se comió un automóvil. Poemas con olor a nafta*".

## Chinese Style Stir Fried Beef With Broccoli And Sweet Red Pepper

### Ingredients – 4 Portions

600 g rump or entrecote steak trimmed of fat and cut into 4 cm x 1 cm wide pieces, no thicker than 3 mm

#### Marinade

- 1 tb sp soy sauce
- 1 teasp grated fresh ginger
- 1 clove finely chopped garlic
- 1 tbsp cornstarch

Mix marinade ingredients with sliced steak and marinate for 30 minutes

#### Sauce

- 3 tbsp soy sauce
- 100 ml chicken broth or water and stock cubes
- 2 tbsp wine vinegar (preferably rice wine vinegar)
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- 3 cloves finely chopped garlic
- 1 tbsp sesame oil
- 1 tbsp corn starch
- 1 tbsp sriracha or chili sauce (final amount will depend on how hot and spicy you like your food)

Whisk together in bowl

#### Vegetables

- 1 medium/sized red onion cut into 1 cm cubes
- 1 large red pepper thinly sliced
- 1 head of broccoli cut into florets and stems, thinly sliced
- 30 ml corn oil for frying beef and vegetables

### Method

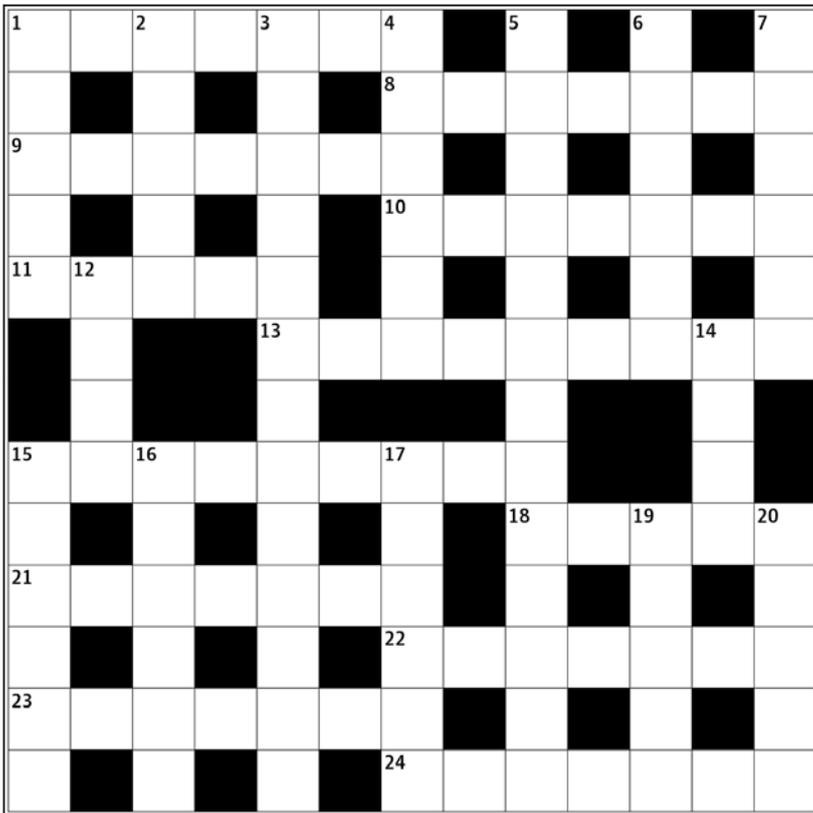
- Heat up wok or frying pan and add 15 ml corn oil and quickly stir fry marinated steak together with marinade. Remove cooked beef from wok or frying pan and reserve e keeping warm
- Reheat frying pan and add remaining 15 ml oil and add the onions, red pepper and broccoli. Fry over high heat moving constantly and taking care not to burn. In Oriental cooking texture is very important, so make sure the vegetables remain crunchy and not overcooked.
- Heat up sauce in sauce pan and simmer gently for three minutes. Add the beef and sauce to the vegetables and mix together well.
- Serve sprinkled with toasted sesame seeds and accompanied with Urumati rice

Nowadays in Uruguay it is relatively easy to purchase a wide variety of products related to distant countries and cultures. Fish sauce, oyster sauce and Sriracha are three such products.

Oyster sauce is Chinese in origin and is especially used in stir fries for its sweetness and umami flavour. As its name implies, it is made by reducing oyster cooking liquid.

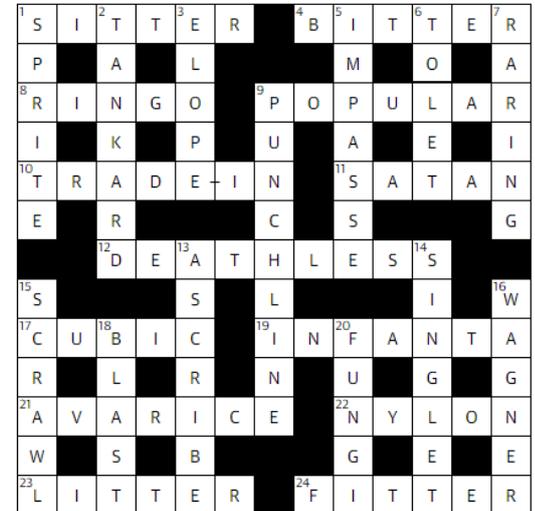
Fish sauce The origin of fish sauce is less clear, but it is widely used in most of Asia, especially Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. It is commonly used for marinating fish and meat and added to soups, casseroles and stir-fry recipes. It has an intense fishy, salty taste due to the fact that it is usually made with fermented anchovies.

Sriracha is a chili sauce from Thailand known for its tangy sweet taste with a touch of garlic. It is moderately spicy.



Print this page and start playing!  
Solution in our next Contact issue.

March solution:



## Across

- 1 Cheeky rodent (7)
- 8 Creative porn (7)
- 9 Prepare to shoot (4,3)
- 10 Batting stint (7)
- 11 Cooked and then blended food (5)
- 13 With no specific training (9)
- 15 Up-and-coming (9)
- 18 Light-coloured (5)
- 21 Beggaries (7)
- 22 Radioactive element used in nuclear reactors (7)
- 23 Cooking implement (7)
- 24 Recent information (7)

## Down

- 1 Get warmer (3,2)
- 2 Creative type (5)
- 3 Member of a workers' organisation — auditor sent in (anag) (5,8)
- 4 Sends (money in payment) (6)
- 5 Someone to discuss ideas with (8,5)
- 6 Conspicuous — gesture (6)
- 7 Gathered together (6)
- 12 San Francisco-based international mobility provider, founded 2009 (4)
- 14 — crop, women's short hairstyle of the 1920s (4)
- 15 Permeable (6)
- 16 Expelled (6)
- 17 Rude comment (6)
- 19 It's enough to make one weep (5)
- 20 Ditches (5)

ANDY CAPP

by Smythe



## The Cheating B\*\*\*\*\*

It's hole 18  
You're for the green  
And tied at something all

The other guy  
Is in the woods  
You help hunt  
For his ball

He says 'Play on,  
I'll stay and look';  
You chip: you curse,  
You grin...

Then 'Found it!'  
Says his voice,  
And a ball falls near the pin

So now you're stuck:  
You're out of luck,  
You cannot make your call,  
For in the pocket of your slacks  
Is the cheating b\*\*\*\*\*'s ball

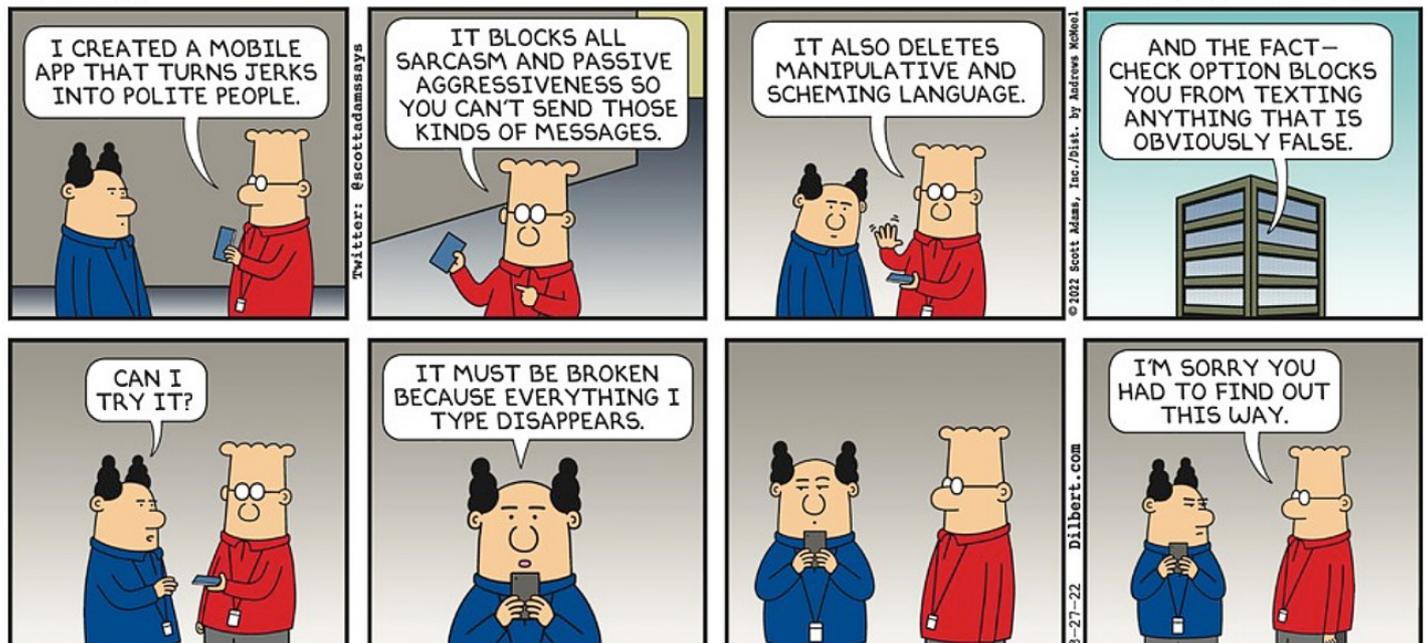


# DILBERT

by Scott Adams  
<https://dilbert.com/>

## DILBERT

## BY SCOTT ADAMS





## The extraordinary power of kindness

**Bernadette Russell spent a whole year being kind to strangers. How did it change her? And what happens in our brains when we are kind?**

**Based on The Kindness Test, the world's largest study of kindness, launched on BBC Radio 4 devised by the University of Sussex.**



## 10 FILMS TO WATCH THIS APRIL



**Including a postmodern riff on fame with Nicolas Cage, a modern French fable, and Jared Leto as a "pseudo-vampire" in Morbius, these are this month's unmissable releases.**

**CLICK HERE TO  
SEE THE LIST**





## King Arthur

**K**ing Arthur's story is one of the most complex English folklore tales with multiple stages covering how he pulled the sword from the stone and became king, as well as his escapades with the Knights of the Round Table and the Holy Grail. Regardless, King Arthur's legacy is one we still feel today, and he has played a major role in creating the English identity that currently exists.

King Arthur, also called Arthur or Arthur Pendragon, legendary British king who appears in a cycle of medieval romances (known as the Matter of Britain) as the sovereign of a knightly fellowship of the Round Table. It is not certain how these legends originated or whether the figure of Arthur was based on a historical person. The legend possibly originated either in Wales or in those parts of northern Britain inhabited by Brythonic-speaking Celts.

Arthurian legend, the body of stories and medieval romances, known as the matter of Britain, centring on the legendary king Arthur. Medieval writers, especially the French, variously treated stories of Arthur's birth, the adventures of his knights, and the adulterous love between his knight Sir Lancelot and his queen, Guinevere. This last situation and the quest for the Holy Grail (the vessel used by Christ at the Last Supper and given to Joseph of Arimathea) brought about the dissolution of the knightly fellowship, the death of Arthur, and the destruction of his kingdom.

Stories about Arthur and his court had been popular in Wales before the 11th century; European fame came through Geoffrey of Monmouth's *Historia regum Britanniae* (1135–38), celebrating a glorious and triumphant king who defeated a Roman army in eastern France but was mortally wounded in battle during a rebellion at home led by his nephew Mordred. Some features of Geoffrey's story were marvelous fabrications, and certain features of the Celtic

stories were adapted to suit feudal times. The concept of Arthur as a world conqueror was clearly inspired by legends surrounding great leaders such as Alexander the Great and Charlemagne. Later writers, notably Wace of Jersey and Lawamon, filled out certain details, especially in connection with Arthur's knightly fellowship (the Knights of the Round Table).

Using Celtic sources, Chrétien de Troyes in the late 12th century made Arthur the ruler of a realm of marvels in five romances of adventure. He also introduced the themes of the Grail and the love of Lancelot and Guinevere into Arthurian legend. Prose romances of the 13th century explored these major themes further. An early prose romance centring on Lancelot seems to have become the kernel of a cyclic work known as the Prose Lancelot, or Vulgate cycle (c. 1225).

The Lancelot theme was connected with the Grail story through Lancelot's son, the pure knight Sir Galahad, who achieved the vision of God through the Grail as fully as is possible in this life, whereas Sir Lancelot was impeded in his progress along the mystic way because of his adultery with Guinevere. Another branch of the Vulgate cycle was based on a very early 13th-century verse romance, the *Merlin*, by Robert de Boron, that had told of Arthur's birth and childhood and his winning of the crown by drawing a magic sword (see Excalibur) from a stone. The writer of the Vulgate cycle turned this into prose, adding a pseudo-historical narrative dealing with Arthur's military exploits. A final branch of the Vulgate cycle contained an account of Arthur's Roman campaign and war with Mordred, to which was added a story of Lancelot's renewed adultery with Guinevere and the disastrous war between Lancelot and Sir Gawain that ensued. A later prose romance, known as the post-Vulgate Grail romance (c. 1240), combined Arthurian legend with material from the Tristan romance.



London in April